

Service Learning

[Service learning forms](#) can be printed from this website and turned into the Mrs. Campbell. Service hours will be recorded on the final year report card.

What is Service-Learning?

Maryland embraces the Learning in Deed definition of service-learning:

Service-Learning is a teaching method that combines meaningful service to the community with curriculum-based learning. Students improve their academic skills by applying what they learn in school to the real world; they then reflect on their experience to reinforce the link between their service and their learning.

Service-learning is often confused with volunteering or community service. While both activities are defined as forms of service within a community, they do not necessarily include a structured educational connection for participants, which is a foundation of all service-learning projects.

However, students are encouraged to speak with their school service-learning coordinator to discuss if a volunteer or other service activity can be developed into a service-learning project by incorporating a structured educational component.

A. Minimum Level of Student Engagement

All students receiving a Maryland high school diploma from Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) must complete 75 hours of documented service-learning between Grades 6 and 12 as a requirement of high school graduation. This school system requirement is in alignment with state law as mandated by the annotated code of Maryland (General Instructional Programs - 13A.03.02.06) which reads:

Students shall complete one of the following:

- A. 75 hours of student service that includes preparation, action, and reflection components and that, at the discretion of the local school system, may begin during the middle grades; or*
- B. A locally designed program in student service that has been approved by the State Superintendent of Schools.*

Students may earn hours towards the service-learning requirement through projects infused in our secondary school curricula and through pre-approved independent projects completed by students in the community.

Link for service learning implementation from BCPS

https://www.bcps.org/offices/service_learning/pdf/SL-Implementation-Plan.pdf